

**MARION BOARD OF SELECTMEN
WATER/SEWER COMMISSIONERS**

June 2, 2009

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Vice Chairman Roger F. Blanchette and Board member Stephen M. Cushing and Town Administrator Paul F. Dawson. Also present were Lee Craver, Gretchen Grundstrom of *The Sentinel*, Adam Silva of *The Wanderer*, Andrea Smith of the *Tri-Town Observer*, Eunice Manduca, Community Preservation Committee Chairman Loretta B. Schaefer, Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert C. Zora and Helene Craver, secretary.

Mr. Blanchette announced that Chairman Henry was absent, as he had been unwell and in the hospital, but he was pleased to announce that he is now at home recuperating.

Mr. Cushing moved the minutes of May 5, 2009; the motion was seconded and carried.

Mrs. Schaefer reported that the Community Preservation Coalition has notified the Community Preservation Committee that it has been awarded the 2009 Robert Kuehn Community Preservation Small Category Award for the Music Hall repairs and restoration for \$3,500, which will go to the Community Preservation Committee fund for future projects. Mr. Dawson said that he knows first hand the amount of work Mrs. Schaefer put forth to fill out the application for the award. Mr. Dawson read the following Citation into the record: "Be it hereby known to all that: The Massachusetts House of Representatives offers its sincerest congratulations to: The Town of Marion in recognition of receiving the Robert Kuehn Community Preservation Award. The entire membership extends its very best wishes and expresses the hope for future good fortune and continued success in all endeavors." The Citation was signed on May 14, 2009 by Speaker of the House Robert A. DeLeo and State Representative William M. Straus. Mrs. Schaefer was thanked by the Board for her initiative.

The Board then met with Superintendent Zora, who explained that he was presenting for signature a general consulting contract with Tata & Howard (not to exceed \$5,000) which would cover general water issues for one year—a good accounting measure which will assist the Town with keeping track of its spending. Mr. Zora said that the other contracts presented for signature are for CDM—one of which is an amendment to the main contract for the engineering, design and construction of the I&I. A brief discussion followed regarding the bid process for the I&I work to be performed.

Mr. Cushing moved to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the CDM contracts; the motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Cushing moved to sign the Tata & Howard contract; the motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Zora said that they should have recommendations on the I&I contract for the next meeting and that the five-month period of construction should begin after Labor Day. Mr. Zora said that resurfacing of the streets would be in the fall of 2010.

Mr. Cushing moved to approve an all-alcohol license for VFW Post #2425 for June 20, 2009; the motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Cushing moved a final reading water commitment in the amount of \$603.85; the motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Cushing moved credit memos in the amounts of \$487.55 and \$575.00; the motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Dawson explained that he was formally requesting to carry over ten days of unused vacation time, as outlined in his contract, to the next fiscal year.

Mr. Cushing moved to approve the request; the motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Cushing moved to appoint Michael Botelho Assistant Warden of Elections, as requested by the Town Clerk; the motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Dawson reported that the parcel of land donated by Tabor Academy for the new police station is now owned by the Town of Marion, as the Board of Trustees has voted the donation and the executed deed has been recorded in the Registry of Deeds.

Mr. Dawson reported that the sub bids for the police station had been received today. Mr. Dawson noted that the process took two hours, as there were in excess of one hundred bids. Mr. Dawson explained that the general contractors will use these sub bids for the main bid opening on June 16.

Mr. Dawson reminded the Board that the recent Annual Town Meeting had approved the purchase of a work boat for the Harbormaster and that two bids had been received—Connor Industries for \$61,856 and Munson Boat Company for \$108,645. Mr. Dawson reported that Connor Industries has been highly recommended and he advises the awarding of the contract to them.

Mr. Cushing moved to award the bid to Connor Industries for \$61,856; the motion was seconded and carried.

Mr. Dawson explained that recently retired Fire Chief Guerzoni completed his last shift on Friday, May 29 and the Board had appointed Steven Robbins as interim Chief. Mr. Dawson said that he regrets to report that Mr. Robbins has given the appointment consideration and has decided to decline. Mr. Dawson said that this development occurred today and that he has spoken to Assistant Fire Chief Denham, who has agreed to keep the Fire Department moving while they decide on the next step. Mr. Dawson said that he will keep the Board advised.

Mr. Blanchette reviewed Chief Miller's memo regarding the disposition of a dog problem at the Point Road playground, which included the identification of the dog owner and the request that the dogs not be allowed in Marion. Mr. Blanchette said that if the dogs return to Town, we should schedule a hearing.

The Board reviewed a letter from Holly Ainslie, who requested alternative methods of water conservation, instead of the usual odd/even numbering days. It was agreed that Mr. Zora would be requested to review this letter and make suggestions for the Board.

The Board received a letter of interest from Richard Arthur regarding membership in the Cemetery Commissioners. This request and one from Robert Wedge to appoint William Jones to the Zoning Board of Appeals will be held until the next meeting.

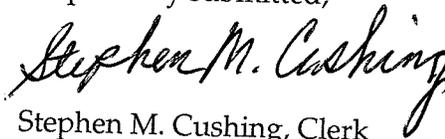
The Board reviewed a request for an abatement on a water bill issued to Jones, 84 Converse Road, as the home had been unoccupied during the winter, when pipes burst, causing a large amount of water to leak into the basement before being removed by the sump pump to the yard. The homeowner asked that the amount charged to sewage treatment be abated, as the water was not treated; the water department recommended that \$3,275.42 of the metered sewer charge be abated in this specific instance.

Mr. Cushing moved the recommendations of the Department of Public Works to abate the metered sewer charge; the motion was seconded and carried.

A brief discussion followed regarding proposed legislation which would have severe financial consequences of the transfer of county sheriffs to the Commonwealth, while exempting the state from assuming their financial obligations. Mr. Dawson advised the Board to postpone action until such time as it may seem likely that the legislators would need to hear from them.

Mr. Cushing moved to adjourn to executive session at 7:55 p.m. for contract negotiations with non-union personnel and to discuss the disposition of Town-owned land; and not to return to open session at the conclusion of the executive session; the motion was seconded and carried, Messrs. Blanchette and Cushing voting aye.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen M. Cushing, Clerk

Date signed: 6/16/09